FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 JANUARY 1985

Lebanon

Israeli Withdrawal — If Lebanon and the United Nations give no clear reply to Israel concerning arrangements for the area to be evacuated by the IDF, Israel will still leave on the stipulated date, "even if there is no one to hand the area over to," Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir warned visiting UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart that cooperation between UNIFIL and the Lebanese Army will be the only way to prevent chaos in southern Lebanon in the wake of Israel's withdrawal, according to the radio. Meanwhile Beirut radio reported that an Israeli armored battalion was seen withdrawing southward from the Sidon area.

Beirut Security — Voice of Lebanon radio announced that the security situation was still disturbed "following the failure to remove barricades and barriers in the center of West Beirut." Explosions rocked West Beirut late on 17 January and shells hit the eastern sector the following morning, injuring several people, according to the radio.

U.S.-USSR Mideast Talks Comment

Following the announcement that the United States and USSR have agreed to hold talks on the Middle East, Radio Monte Carlo reported that Jordanian political circles are "cautiously optimistic" about the future talks. Meanwhile, Israeli officials view the talks as Just an "exchange of views" without practical implications, Jerusalem radio noted.

Jordan

The Jordanian airline president has invited U.S. Jewish leaders to meet with King Husayn in Amman, Jerusalem radio reported. King Husayn approved the invitation, the radio added, and the Jewish leaders have received Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' blessing for the trip.

Sudan

Death Sentences — Mahmud Muhammad Taha was executed after President Ja'far Numayri confirmed the death sentences of five members of the "Republican Brothers Organization" and shortened their grace period from 30 to 3 days, SUNA announced.

Opposition Group — Representatives of the Democratic Alliance Party, the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement, and other opposition groups formed the "Sudanese Popular Resistance Front" after a September 1984 meeting in Libya, the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH* reported.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak ended his official visit to Greece 17 January after talks with political leaders, Athens radio reported.

Western Sahara

On 15 January Morocco completed the security wall extension along the Algerian and Mauritanian borders, according to the southern region commander in a report cited by Rabat radio.

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Gandhi Informs Parliament of Security Arrests

BK181243 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Parliament was informed today that certain employees, working in sensitive positions, suspected to be indulging in activities detrimental to national interest have been arrested. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, told both the houses that the arrests have been made in the course of investigations, which are still in progress. In a statement, he said that their activities had come to government's notice while he reviewed the security procedure. Every government, he said, has to exercise highest vigilance in regard to the protection of confidential information and intelligence.

Indonesia's Mokhtar Arrives, Meets With Gandhi

BK171425 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] The visiting foreign minister of Indonesia, Dr Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, met the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi this afternoon. He delivered a message from the Indonesian president relating to the 30th anniversary celebrations of the Bandung Conference to be held in April.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, who is the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, was invited to take part in the celebrations. Mr Gandhi thanked Dr Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja for the invitation and said that it will be considered and a reply will be conveyed to the Indonesian president.

Earlier on his arrival, Dr Kusumaatmaja was received at the airport by the minister of state for External Affairs, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan. Speaking to newsmen, the Indonesian foreign minister said that the Bandung Conference anniversary will provide an opportunity to the group of countries, who took part in the conference 30 years ago, to once again raise their voices on major issues confronting the world. He said the relations between India and Indonesia have been very good and both the countries hold almost identical views on international matters.

Mr Kusumaatmaja also met the chairman of the Policy Planning Committee in the Ministry of External Affairs, Mr G. Parthasarathy. Later in the evening, he called called on the vice president, Mr R. Venkataraman.

Zail Singh Outlines Domestic, Foreign Policy

BK170945 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] The president has reaffirmed the government's commitment to a clean public life and a more efficient administrative system. Addressing a joint session of Parliament this morning, Giani Zail Singh set forth the measures the government intends to take in various fields, including industry, education, administration of justice, and for the welfare of women and youth. The president announced the government's intention to bring forward an antidefection bill in the current session of Parliament and said wide-ranging discussions will be initiated with political parties on electoral reforms. The administrative system will be reformed to make it more responsive to the people's needs and aspirations. There will be comprehensive reforms of the educational system and the new educational policy formulated. Girls up to higher secondary stage will be provided free education.

Measures will be introduced to ensure speedier justice and to see that the underprivileged have easier access to judicial remedy. The government will formulate a new policy for the textile industry which is in a poor state of health.

Listing the government's future tasks, the president recalled that Mr Rajiv Gandhi has already expressed his determination to find solutions to the problems in Punjab and Assam. He referred to the last month's elections and said the unprecedented mandate received by the ruling party under Mr Rajiv Gandhi's leadership shows the overwhelming concern of our people for the unity and integrity of the nation and their desire for a strong and stable government at the center.

Giani Zail Singh paid a moving tribute to Mrs Indira Gandhi, saying that she has joined the ranks of the immortals of the world history. Every moment of her life was devoted to the consolidation of India's unity and to strengthen its people.

Turning to foreign relations, the president said the ethnic violence in Sri Lanka is a matter of concern to us. Giani Zail Singh called for a political process involving all concerned parties to find a just settlement. Conditions must be created to enable the large number of refugees taking shelter in India to return to Sri Lanka.

Expressing the hope that Pakistan will respond positively to the initiative taken by India, the president said the induction of sophisticated arms in our neighborhood is a matter of great concern.

As chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, India has worked with other nations to build a just order and to help resolve conflicts among member states.

Rao on PRC, Pakistani Arms Modernization Plans

BK180929 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] The Chinese plan to modernize its Navy with guided missiles and electronic nuclear and automatic weapons is likely to have an impact on the maritime security environment in the Indian Ocean and to have security implications for India.

This was stated by the defense minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha today. In reply to another question, the minister said the government has seen press reports of Pakistan equipping its Air Force with U.S.-manufactured E-2 Hawkeye early warning and control plane. All such developments are carefully monitored and effective steps taken to ensure our full defense preparedness, he added.

Two Arrested for Attack on Sikh Chief in Ludhiana

BK180338 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] In Punjab, two of the three assailants who made an attempt on the life of the chief of the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion], Jathedar Kripal Singh, have been arrested by the Ludhiana police. They are Devendar Singh and Darshan Singh. The state Home secretary told All-India Radio Chandigarh correspondent that weapons used in the attack have also been recovered. He said police have arrested another person at whose residence the culprits have dumped the motorcycle used by them. The hunt for the third accused is continuing.

Meanwhile, the state government has further tightened the security measures for Jathedar Kirpal Singh. Security will also be provided to four other Sikh high priests.

Meanwhile, more leaders have condemned the attack on Jathedar. They include several senior Punjab Congress-I leaders and the president of the Punjab BJP [Bhatiya Janata Party]. The high priest of the Golden Temple, Sahib Singh, has [word indistinct] attack of those elements who have always tried to create problems whenever a solution to the Punjab problem is in sight. Mrs Amarjeet Kaur, member of Parliament and AICC-I [All-India Congress Committee-Indira] joint secretary, in a statement in New Delhi has described the attack as the desperate act of violence designed to silence the voice of reason of the (?nationalist) Sikhs all over the country.

INDIAN EXPRESS on Bihari Muslims in Bangladesh

BK161439 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 7 Jan 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Unhappy Lot"]

[Text] The long-standing problem of the future of the so-called Bihari Muslims in Bangladesh threatens once again to strain relations between Dhaka and Islamabad. The problem is as old as Bangladesh. Until its liberation in 1971, the estimated one million Bihari Muslims, who had migrated from eastern India to what was East Pakistan after Partition, were Pakistani citizens. Although there were tensions between them and Bengalis earlier, the disharmony turned into active hostility during the Bangladesh liberation struggle and they opted for Pakistan after the establishment of Bangladesh, but Pakistan refused to accept them. A small number were, however, shipped to Pakistan following the establishment of diplomatic relations between Dhaka and Islamabad some years later.

The vast majority has, however, remained in wait all these years, mostly in camps and special settlements in Dhaka and elsewhere. Islamabad's continued refusal to take them is, according to the Bangladesh Foreign Office, contrary to what is described as "the agreement reached between the two countries." President Ziaul Haq had said recently that the future of the Bihari Muslims was a Bangladeshi problem and "not our headache." This, and another Pakistani remark describing the Bihari Muslims as "beggars," led to an angry protest by Bihari Muslims in Karachi. Rather than let matters drift, the governments of Pakistan and Bangladesh should discuss the problem essentially in a humanitarian light and arrive at a mutually satisfactory accord.

Meanwhile, the desperation of the people concerned is demonstrated by the fact that many of them have been crossing into India from Bangladesh and then traversing some 1,000-odd miles to sneak into Pakistan. The clash with Indian villagers near Amritsar on December 31, in which at least three such illicit immigrants in transit were killed, suggests the need for considerable vigilance. It also reinforces the fears that over the years many such intending emigrants from Bangladesh to Pakistan have possibly settled in West Bengal and Bihar. Apart from underlining the dangers of provenly porous borders, something that could be and perhaps is being exploited by smugglers and others, this kind of easy access could create delicate political problems which India cannot countenance.

Briefs

New Home Secretary — Mr R.D. Pradhan, chief secretaryof the Maharashtra government, has been appointed union Home secretary. He will take over his new assignment tomorrow. The acting Home secretary, Mr Prem Kumar, is taking over as Commerce secretary. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Jan 85 BK]

Zia Empowered To Waive Disqualifications

BK171609 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has issued Martial Law Order No 104, which is effective immediately. The order says that the chief martial law administrator can, either on his own or at the request of any person who had been disqualified from being elected or nominated to parliament or to a provincial assembly under Martial Law Order No 47, waive the concerned persons' disqualification at any time by a written order.

74 Disqualified Persons Waived

BK180703 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] The chief martial law administrator, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, in exercising the power conferred by Martial Law Order No 104, has waived the disqualification — done under Martial Law Order No 47 regarding election or nomination as members of the parliament or provincial assemblies — of 74 persons.

Soviet Envoy Briefs Zia, Naik on Geneva Talks

BK171603 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] The Soviet ambassador to Pakistan, Mr V.S. Smirnov, called on the president in Rawalpindi this evening. He told him about the recent Geneva talks between Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz on arms control. Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik was present on the occasion.

Oil Minister Inaugurates Exploratory Well

GF180802 Karachi DAWN in English 16 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Shahdadpur, Jan 3 — Dr. Mohammad Asad Khan, Minister in charge Petroleum and Natural Resources, inaugurated on Thursday drilling of first exploratory well at Shahdadpur, 16 kms south of Nawabshah town in Sanghar District.

The well would be drilled down to a depth of 4,500 metres to test its oil and gas potential. The result was expected within four months. In case of positive results, five more wells would be drilled in the area.

The entire operation of Shahdadpur exploratory well including seismic survey and drilling was being conducted by Pakistani experts.

The OGDC [Oil and Groundwater Drilling Company] has undertaken this new project with the assistance of the World Bank. The World Bank has given a loan of 51.5 million U.S. dollars for conducting seismic survey of 3,000 kms and drilling of six wells over a period of three years.

Shahdadpur Well No. 1 is one of the six wells planned to be drilled under this project.

Talking to newsmen after the spudding-in ceremony of the well, Dr. Asad said that government was utilising all available resources to intensify its exploratory and drilling efforts for rapid increase in oil and gas production.

He said, OGDC has considerably increased its activities for the exploration and development of oil and gas resources in the country. Against the project target of 38,000 metres for drilling in 1984-85, OGDC has already drilled about 24,000 metres in the first half of the financial year as compared to the drilling of about 10,800 metres in the corresponding period of 1983-84, he added.

The Petroleum Minister said that during first six months of 1984-85 production was about 845,000 barrels against about 395,500 barrels produced in the corresponding period of 1983-84.

He said, besides Shahdadpur Well No. 1 OGDC was carrying out drilling at Dakhna, Toot, Pir Koh, Tando Alam Khan and Loti, while drilling at Kot — Sarang will be started in a fortnight.

Dr. Asad was accompanied by Mr. Zakauddin Malik, acting chairman, OGDC.

Jatoi Gives Conditions for Talks With Government

GF180751 Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by "Our Staff Reporter"]

[Text] Karachi, Jan 10 — Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, a former Chief Minister of Sind and a prominent leader of MRD, has ruled out the possibility of holding any negotiations with the Government in the "present circumstances".

Talking to *DAWN* on Thursday, Mr Jatoi said his defunct party would stick to the four points of MRD unless the Aug 12 plan was completely withdrawn and the 1973 Constitution re-promulgated without any changes and the democratic rights of people restored.

He, however, said any negotiations with the Government after the withdrawal of the Aug 12 plan and revival of the unanimously-agreed Constitution should aim at discussing:

(a) The modalities for transfer of power to the civilian government after lifting of Martial Law;
(b) A timetable for holding of the general election; and
(c) A timeframe for installation of a civilian government.

He refuted the report that there was a change in the policies of his party and said the defunct PPP [Peoples Party of Pakistan] was committed to the four points of MRD.

Earlier, he had separate meetings with a number of politicians, including former members of the defunct National Assembly and Provincial Assembly, ex-member of Majlis-i-Shoora, leaders of different political parties. He also met Mr Ghulam Mustafa Shah, a former Vice-Chancellor of the Sind University, Khwaja Khairuddin, Secretary-General of MRD, Mr Mushtaq Mirza and Mr Abdul Rahim Baluch.

Qazi 'Bewildered' by Boycott Review Statements

GF180754 Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 85 p 2

[Text] Karachi, Jan 10 — Mr Mazhar Qazi, a founder-member of the defunct PPP [Peoples Party of Pakistan], has in a press statement said he was "somewhat bewildered" to read the press statements of Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi and Qazi Ghani suggesting that the decision to boycott the forthcoming polls was open to review and reconsideration subject to certain conditions.

In her letter of Nov 23, 1984, Miss Benazir Bhutto had "most emphatically and categorically denied" such suggestions.

"In the light of this, it is incumbent on the party leadership not to confuse the party workers and furthermore it is their bounden duty to discharge the pledge given by the Acting Chairman or to have the statement issued in her name and hers only," Mr. Mazhar stated.

Opposition MRD, PPP Officials Arrested

GF130757 Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 85 p 3

[Report by *DAWN* Lahore bureau]

[Excerpt] Lahore, Jan 11 — Rana Shaukat Mahmud, Secretary-General of the (defunct) Pakistan People's Party [PPP], Punjab, was arrested last night and detained at Kot Lakhpat Jail for a period of 90 days under Martial Law.

The police also raided the residence of a number of MRD leaders, including Mr. Rafiq Ahmad Sheikh, Punjab President, Malik Hakmeen Khan and Mr. Arif Iqbal Bhatti of PPP, Malik Mohammad Qasim and several others but they were not available.

Meanwhile, Mr. Rafiq Ahmad Sheikh who also assumed the office of Secretary of the Punjab MRD, following the arrest of Rao Rashid, said in a press statement that the public meeting at Nila Gumbad Masjid on Saturday would be held as scheduled, and all the constituent parties would make it a success. Criticising the "mass scale" arrests, he said that despite such steps workers would not lose heart and join the rally in a large number. He demanded immediate release of all detained leaders and workers.

Mr. Sheikh said that the MRD, together with the (defunct) Jamiat Ulema-e Pakistan, the (defunct) Jamiat Ahl-e Hadith and the Tehrik-e Nafaz-e Fiqh Jafria, had provided a collective leadership to the country. The parties were putting up a determined struggle for the achievement of the MRD's objectives that is restoration of democracy, lifting of Martial Law, release of all political prisoners and removal of curbs on the press, he said.

Those arrested in the early hours on Friday included Mr Jehangir Badar, Deputy Secretary General of the Punjab PPP, Mr Afzal Sindhu and Mr Javed Hafeez also.

Envoy Informs UN of Afghan Airspace Violation

BK180653 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 18 Jan 85

[Text] Pakistan has drawn the United Nations' attention to yet another serious violation of its airspace and territory by Afghanistan. In a letter to the UN secretary general, Pakistan's Ambassador S. Shah-Nawaz said that seven Afghan aircraft entered Arandu area of the Chitral District and dropped 12 bombs and fired a few rockets on 11 January. The letter also rejected the Kabul regime's allegations that shots were fired from the Pakistani side on Afghanistan's Barikowt area and Chamkani and Bangash in Paktia Division, on 5 and 6 January.

The letter was circulated as a document of the Security Council and the General Assembly yesterday.

All-India Radio Report on Kashmir Clash Denied

BK171528 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] An official spokesman in Rawalpindi today strongly denied a PTI report broadcast by All-India Radio that quotes a high Indian military official as saying that there had been casualties in serious clashes between Pakistan and Indian Armed Forces in the Siachen region [of Kashmir]. The spokesman described the report as totally baseless and fabricated.

The spokesman said that an incident took place in this region in July last year in which three Pakistanis were killed. No other clash has been reported since that incident. The spokesman added that the statistics given by the Indian commander are without any foundation.

JANG Welcomes Rajiv Statement on Friendly Ties

GF180924 Lahore JANG in Urdu 9 Jan 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Need for Better Relations"]

[Excerpt] In a recent interview, Indian Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi spoke for better and closer relations with Pakistan based on mutual respect, equality, and friendship. The Indian prime minister said, we want to end the years-long confrontation with Pakistan because, according to Mr Rajiv Gandhi, India faces many other problems. The Indian prime minister's statement reciprocates President Ziaul Haq's attendance at the funeral of Mrs Gandhi and his congratulatory message sent on the election of Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

In fact, such friendly exchanges should not only bring a state of friendship between these two countries, but should also bring peace to the entire Indian subcontinent. Pakistan and India are a part of this Asian subcontinent; both have long borders between them and close cultural and historical backgrounds. Today it is essential that they have good relations. When that is achieved, there will be peace and prosperity in the whole region. Although in the past both have confronted each other several times in war, a closer look at the area will show that these countries must live in friendship.

History is proof that Pakistan has always wanted friendly relations with India. It has also tried several times to achieve this goal. For that purpose Pakistan has proposed practical steps on several occasions that would help achieve the goal of friendship with India. Such hopes, however, have not so far been realized for one reason or another. In light of these facts, one should welcome Mr Rajiv Gandhi's statement. We are sure that if Mr Rajiv Gandhi takes any step toward friendship with Pakistan, he will not be disappointed.

Pakistan-India Relations Depend on Rajiv Ghandi

GF111504 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu
9 Jan 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Rajiv Gandhi's Condition for Good Relations"]

[Text] In his press interview with the American magazines *TIME* and *NEWSWEEK*, the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, said that India wants to end the series of confrontations with Pakistan and would like to improve its relations with that country. His wish is a very good wish and Pakistan too will not hesitate to respond positively to it. If his wish takes practical shape then not only the subcontinent but the entire region will see the start of a very pleasant, peaceful, stable, friendly and cooperative era. The condition that he has attached to this wish, however, that "Pakistan should abandon its efforts, devices, and planning to strengthen its defenses," clearly means that Pakistan should accept Indian hegemony and that Islamabad should make it a daily routine to ask Delhi, "Please state your pleasure," in every matter.

The condition that Mr Rajiv Gandhi has laid down means that Pakistan should limit its supply of modern arms, which (according to him) have started an arms race in the subcontinent. This statement by Rajiv Gandhi in his interview with *TIME* and *NEWSWEEK* in fact is a naive effort to win over the United States. Moreover, he thinks that the job that Mrs Indira Gandhi could not do against the supply of American arms to Pakistan with her hue and cry, he might be able to do through his sweet and innocent talk. Mrs Gandhi also wanted Pakistan not to get the modern and latest arms to boost its defenses. However, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said the same thing in a different and rather pleasant way, that Pakistan should remain weak and forlorn against India.

To give some authenticity to his naive statement, Mr Rajiv Gandhi has also said that President General Muhammad Ziaul Haq, when he visited Delhi last November for Mrs Gandhi's funeral, "said many positive things" but the Pakistani officials do not put them into effect. In the past he has also said similar things, "President Zia talks in a good way but the tone of his underlings is not proper." The difference Mr Rajiv Gandhi has found in the attitude of the Pakistani president and the Pakistani administration is a figment of his imagination. He should know that the complaint he has against the Pakistani administration will also continue to be harbored against the Pakistani press and the general public because they too want good-neighborly relations with India, but they want to strengthen these relations on the basis of nonintervention, equal status, and complete respect for the independence and sovereignty of each other's country. Pakistani people know that India is a big country, but they would like Indian rulers to act as broadmindedly as their country and abandon the path of frightening Pakistan through threats and show of force. This is the only path to a real and durable friendship. Threats cause distrust and do not allow friendship to bloom.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi belongs to India's new generation. This generation has had no bitter experience of the happenings that occurred during the partition of the subcontinent 37 years ago, when the two independent states of Pakistan and India came into being. Compelled by circumstances then, the Indian rulers and leaders tolerated the birth of Pakistan but they did not accept it in their hearts. They later said that the partition was transitory and vowed to end the existence of Pakistan. They also began hostile activity and formed plots against Pakistan. It is a long and a bitter story, but the fact is that the open aggression of 1971 was a part of this very plan to divide Pakistan into two parts. On achieving this success, Mrs Gandhi said, "We have avenged a thousand years of history." This has also been stated as "the two-nation theory on the basis of which Pakistan was created and has been drowned in the Bay of Bengal."

The generation to which Mr Rajiv Gandhi belongs is said to be free of the prejudices and enmities of their elders and other Indian leaders, but whether or not this is true depends on Mr Rajiv Gandhi's policies toward Pakistan. If in fact he does not want to continue the series of confrontations against Pakistan and wishes to introduce an era of friendship, cooperation, and peace, then in his dealings with Pakistan he will have to give up the idea of India being a big country. He will also have to give up the logic that an arms race has begun in the subcontinent because Pakistan has acquired a few arms. Such talk amounts to a show of hegemony. Whether Americans are charmed with his sweet talk or not, the Pakistani people will not make the error of placing their trust in his words. The United States like India is a big country, but its neighbors, Canada and Mexico, do not feel threatened by it.

Editorial Cites U.S. Disgust With USSR Over DRA

GF171248 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu
13 Jan 85 p 3

[Editorial: "U.S. Expresses its Disgust at Events in Afghanistan"]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Mr George Shultz, in his recent talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Mr Gromyko, expressed his hatred for and disgust at the situation that the Soviet Union has created in Afghanistan. He also cautioned the Soviet Union that it should not miscalculate regarding the Pakistan border violations. This statement was made by the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mr Lugar, in connection with the meeting in which Mr George Shultz briefed the American Senate on his talks in Geneva.

Senator Lugar said that, on special instructions from President Reagan, Mr Shultz raised the issue of Afghanistan in his talks with the Soviet foreign minister. He referred to the "open aggression" as a big problem and said that as a result of the aggression,

the Afghan people were being made to pay a high price. Pakistan was also suffering from the heavy load of the Afghan refugees. Senator Lugar also said he was certain that the United States will continue to raise this question in future talks with the Soviet Union. He said the Afghanistan question was one of those basic problems "that are not only a cause of friction between the United States and the Soviet Union, but have also caused a division throughout the world". These problems, he said, could affect other countries besides the Soviet Union and the United States.

It is a happy omen that in its high-level talks, the United Statesconsidered it necessary to also raise the question of Afghanistan,and considered this as one of the important points in its talks with the Soviet Union. There was a feeling that American interest was wanning in this ancient, free, and traditionally nonaligned small Muslim country. In this connection, special allusions are being made to President Reagan's recent address to the UN General Assembly in which he did not make even a passing reference to the problem of Afghanistan. This address was delivered by President Reagan just before his meeting with the Soviet foreign minister. It was said that this was a part of President Reagan's strategy to please the Soviet Union. Senator Lugar's explanation, by quoting Mr George Shultz, seems to convey that not only in its relations with the Soviet Union has the United States not forgotten the problem of Afghanistan, but that in his talks with the Soviet Union he kept in mind the heavy sacrifices being made by the Afghan people in the face of this "open aggression," heavy sacrifices being shared by Pakistan.

The hatred and disgust that Mr George Shultz expressed in his talks with the Soviet foreign minister on the current situation in Afghanistan refers to the huge plans put into effect by the Soviet Union to wipe out the villages and population hoping that the Afghans will either vacate the villages and escape to Pakistan or, alternatively, make their way to the big cities and districts under Soviet control that have been turned into military bases and cantonments. This Soviet attitude runs totally counter to every basic and well-known human value. This reminds one of the horrors committed by Genghis and Hulagu [the Mongol king who ruled over Iran and overthrew the Abbasid dynasty]. During the same period the human rights group, in its meeting at Helsinki, outlined a highly painful account of the atrocities and brutalities committed by the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. Although the human rights report was based on documentary proof, nobody believed that in this modern era anyone would dare to commit such inhuman acts of oppression.

The Afghan people are putting up a most glittering example of resistance under such unhelpful conditions. Moreover, the 5-year war in Afghanistan is a war between two highly unequal parties. Every kind of modern weapon, including chemical gas, has been used against the unarmed Afghan. The whole world is now siding with the Afghan Mujahidin, and glowing tributes are being paid to them for their continued resistance. Unfortunately, they cannot lay their hands on even the most elementary weapons that they could effectively use against the Soviet forces. They need arms to shoot down Soviet gunship helicopters as well as other equipment and training to neutralize the deadly mines laid by the Soviet Army. However, no such aid is being given to them. All they get now is verbal sympathy and some aid to look after the huge number of refugees that have found their way to Pakistan.

The freedom-loving world must do a lot to end this "open Soviet aggression" against Afghanistan. It seems that a situation of helplessness is being created. In such circumstances, however, it is most fortunate that in his talks with the Soviet foreign minister, the American secretary of state did not forget the Afghanistan problem (or more appropriately, the Afghanistan tragedy) and expressed his hatred and disgust over the situation in Afghanistan due to the Soviet aggression.

World pressure on the Soviet Union has so far been to no avail. Only pressure from the United States of America could prove useful. As far as the Afghan people are concerned, they are determined to continue resisting the Soviet Union to the last Afghan. But let us see what the United States does in practice against the most dreadful Soviet operations in Afghanistan, which have forced it to express its hatred and disgust against the brutalities.

Khamene'i on IRP Role in Ideological Education

LD171746 Tehran IRNA in English 1732 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan 17, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said today the Islamic Republic Party (IRP) has a responsibility to extend ideological education to the people in order to prepare the society to reach its goals.

In a meeting with the officials of the IRP's ideology education branches in Tehran and the provinces, Khamene'i stressed that the best ideological source for IRP members was the basic policy book of the party, "Mavaze" (our policies).

He said the book has been recently re-printed in a revised form.

Khamene'i, who is the IRP secretary general, also called for closer cooperation of the ulama with the party's ideology branches as well as greater educational contact with IRP sympathisers abroad.

Majlis Approves Armed Forces Tribunal Bill

LD171258 Tehran IRNA in English 1135 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 17, IRNA — The Majlis Thursday approved a 12-parts bill on the legal procedure of the Armed Forces tribunal after hearing a report on the subject by the secretary of the Majlis Commission for Judicial Affairs.

The Thursday open session then approved the single clause of the bill for the amendment of the goods transactions between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Syria.

During the session, presided over by Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and later by his deputy Mohammad Yazdi, discussions over the press bill continued. This would be followed in the next Majlis session Sunday.

Trade Talks Held in Ankara; Musavi Plans Visit

LD171737 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] Ankara, Jan 17 IRNA — The visiting Iranian Heavy Industries minister, Behzad Nabavi, held talks today with Turkish Minister of State Mustafa Titiz [as received] on bilateral economic and trade relations.

Nabavi told reporters that the level of trade between the two countries had currently stood at more than dlrs [as received] 2.5 billion.

He reiterated that the Islamic Republic was seeking closer relations with the Third World countries, especially the Islamic ones.

The Turkish minister of state, while referring to some obstacles that hampered the export of a number of Turkish goods to Iran in 1984, hoped that Nabavi's talks here would clear the way.

Meanwhile, talks on a joint cultural program was due to begin today before the arrival of Prime Minister Mr Hoseyn Musavi on Sunday [20 January], a Turkish Foreign Ministry statement said. In the light of the expanding relations between the two countries, Turkey and Iran, "for the first time", will engage in cultural activities, sports and arts, the statement added.

Provincial Trade Protocol Signed With Turkey

LD171156 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] The discussions between the economic delegations from western Azerbayjan, in our country, and Agri Province in Turkey, led by the governors general from the two neighboring border provinces, came to an end yesterday with the signing of a protocol in Urumiyeh concerning border exchanges. These meetings were attended by a number of officials from western Azerbayjan; representatives from the Ministries of Petroleum, Commerce, and Chamber of Commerce of Turkey [as heard]; the governor general of Agri Province in Turkey; and the economic adviser of the governor general of western Azerbayjan.

In interviews with IRNA following the meetings, the participants talked about the results of the discussions between the officials of the two countries, the importance of border exchanges, and the methods of implementing these exchanges. The economic adviser of the governor general of western Azerbayjan said: According to the border protocol that was signed, merchants, traders, and those residing near the border in western Azerbayjan who possess trade permits can import and export up to $2,500 dollars worth of permitted goods. He added: In this protocol it has been specified that the goods should be exchanged with the agreement of the officials of the two provinces, and that the transportation of goods up to the border will be carried out by each side, which will certainly lead to the expansion of trucking activities in the province.

In this interview, the governor general of Agri Province in Turkey also referred to the border exchanges which were carried out on a limited level between western Azerbayjan and Agri Provinces in 1979, and said that the signing of this new protocol will be useful in expanding, increasing, and continuing these exchanges. He said: The visits by the economic delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Turkish Republic, which have long-standing relations, have always been effective in strengthening these relations.

Islamic Revolution of Iraq Assembly Begins Session

LD171245 Tehran IRNA in English 1128 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 17, IRNA — The fifth session of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq started work in Tehran Wednesday afternoon. The session was attended by all members of the assembly.

During this session, issues related to the assembly and its responsibilities were discussed and it was stressed that activities to overthrow the Iraqi regime and the liberation of the oppressed people of Iraq should be intensified.

Meanwhile a large group of volunteer forces of the assembly, who have completed military training in a camp near Tehran, left the capital for the warfronts on Wednesday.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,975

LD171448 Tehran IRNA in English 1418 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 17, IRNA — Exchange of fire between Iranianand Iraqi forces Wednesday continued in the western and northwestern fronts where enemy ground and air activities were checked and controlled by Iran's Muslim combatants.

The Joint Staff Command Thursday said in its Communique Number 1975 that in the southern fronts, the combatants spotted an enemy patrol and forced it to retreat at Eynkhosh. An Iraqi armoured column south of Faqqeh was also pounded.

In the cross-fire that erupted in the southern front, the Iranian forces hit Iraqi defence lines, supply routes and field guns, killing and wounding a number of enemy troops.

Heaviest confrontations were reported in the Nahr-Anbar, Tuwaylah and Kushk regions.

In the Arvand River front, the Islamic forces interrupted enemy engineering activities and destroyed seven of their weaponry positions and ammunition dumps, killing or wounding a number of Iraqi soldiers.

Five houses and shops were damaged by the enemy's long-range artillery fire in the port city of Abadan Wednesday.

Mobilized Fighters Leave for Battlefronts

GF170618 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] Yesterday more than 1,000 mobilized fighters, members of the resistance group of the forces of the oppressed, mobilized by the Revolution Guards Corps of the Islamic Revolution in the central sector, left for the battlefronts from the Hamzeh Seyyed al-Shohada base. These fighters, members of the mobilized forces, had about 3 months of military training at various centers in the cities and rural areas. The training was run by the Mobilization organization.

Before leaving for the battlefronts, these groups attended a grand send-off rally at the Hamzeh Seyyed al-Shohada base, where they voiced their respect for all the Islamic martyrs who fell in the imposed war and expressed their determination to continue to walk the path of the martyrs, whichaims at establishing the rule of God in all the regions of Islamic Iran.

After the rally, these fighters left for the battlefronts amid warm sentiments expressed by the people and their families.

In an expression of the solidarity of our people with our fighters, during the past 2 days, more groups of mobilized personnel, members of the "At Your Service Khomeyni" group, and volunteers from the cities of Dezful, Andimeshk, Borujen, Ardal, Mian Kuh, Arsanjan, Zarinshahr, Faridan, and Aras, together with some students from the religious school of Saidiyeh in Arsanjan, left for the battlefronts amid loud cheers at the send-off rally held by the peoples of these areas.

Iraqi Muslims Inflict Losses on Saddam's Troops

GF171600 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] The Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries have attacked an Iraqi assembly center near Al-Barin in Al-Ahwar District in northern Iraq. They killed 11 Saddamist soldiers and wounded 5. During these operations Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries inflicted other heavy losses on the Saddamists.

Clash With Security Forces

LD171727 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] In a clash with Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries, 17 men of the security forces of the Zionist Ba'thist regime ruling Iraq were either killed or wounded. According to a Central News Unit report, during the clash, which took place in the Bamarni region against one of the military centers of the Saddam regime's forces, 11 servicemen stationed in the center were killed and another 6 were wounded.

Executions of Deserters Continues in Iraq

LD171530 Tehran IRNA in English 1402 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] Bakhtaran, Bakhtaran Pr., Jan. 17, IRNA — Some 3,000 deserters of the Iraqi Army have been executed in various Iraqi cities over the past two years.

An Iraqi factory owner, Sadeq Hussein Karim, who has recently been expelled from Iraq and is currently in Bakhtaran, told IRNA that 1,500 Iraqi mojahedin who fought against the Iraq Ba'thist regime have been brutally tortured and executed in jails of Baghdad, Basra and Mosul.

The soldiers who flee the warfronts are executed publicly, he added.

On the deteriorating economic situation in Iraq, he said in the absence of financial aid from the United States, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the Shaykhdoms, the Iraqi regime would not have been able to survive. He further told IRNA that the price of foodstuff has soared tenfolds in recent years.

Hussein Karim is among more than 400 people who have recently been expelled from Iraq. Most of them have spent four to 18 months in Iraqi jails.

In the past several days, 11 Iraqis, most of them women and children, crossed the western border into Iran and sought asylum. All are from Sulaymaniyah, in northern Iraq.

Conditions for Ending War With Iraq Remain Firm

GF171946 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Jan 85

[From "Behind the News" program]

[Text] Waves of volunteers of the public mobilization forces are still heading toward the frontlines of the battlefronts. Within the framework of this trend, yesterday, more groups of these forces moved to take up positions against the Ba'thist aggression. Military mobilization has been continuous since the beginning of the Ba'thist aggression. The current mobilization is simply an extension of the operation concomitant with the nature of the Ba'thist-Islamic conflict and military precautions.

The Islamic Republic has averred its firm stand and conditions on ending the war. These conditions are based on the removal of the Baghdad regime. Therefore, military mobilization is the only dialogue for ending the war as long as the ruling regime in Iraq continues to exist. All military mobilizations and preparations have been made all along the front — from the north to the south.

With regard to what the Baghdad regime occasionally announces about the expected Islamic attack, that it may happen this or that day, it can only be viewed as mere speculation. The Islamic Republic will be the military decisionmaker to fix the date, be it today, tomorrow, or after a year.

We are firm on our stand with regard to ending the war. However, we are not in a hurry, as pointed out by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and the Imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council. Through military mobilization we aim to overthrow the Baghdad regime and permanently restore security and peace in the region. To achieve this goal we cannot accept to be led to secondary battles which have been created by the Baghdad regime here and there. Examples of these secondary battles are the striking of civilian targets and the violation of international navigation in the Gulf waters. These acts are aimed at putting pressure on the Islamic Republic to enter into the next battle, undermining its comprehensive military strategic plans, including its absolute control of the date and place of the next operations.

The ruling regime in Iraq has suffered greatly from this waiting game, especially militarily. The big mobilization and constant alerts have had negative effects on the Iraqi soldier. Coupled with previous accumulations, these effects have turned the Iraqi soldier into a body without soul. If the Baghdad rulers are becoming impatient and frustrated over waiting, our situation is the antithesis of theirs: We are still at the beginning of the path; if necessary, we will fight on for 20 years, as previously emphasized by the leader, Imam Khomeyni.

Afghan Mojahedin Attack Military Convoy

LD171302 Tehran IRNA in English 1137 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] Zahedan, Sistan-Baluchestan Pr., Jan. 17, IRNA — The Afghan Muslim mojahedin fighting the Soviet-backed regime of Afghanistan, blocked the Jaji Pass in Paktia Province and inflicted heavy casualties and damages on a military convoy of the Soviet and government forces in a recent operation. An Afghan soldier who was wounded in this operation said that a large number of the Soviet and government forces were killed and wounded and 80 soldiers surrendered to the mojahedin with their weapons.

He further said there was widespread defection in the military garrisons and added that most Afghan soldiers who are forced to serve a four or five-year term, flee after a few months and join the mojahedin.

He also said Afghan soldiers were living under difficult conditions and once wounded, they were left unattended.

Soviet Bombardment Kills 570 in Afghan Villages

LD171526 Tehran IRNA in English 1345 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Text] Islamabad, Jan. 17, IRNA — The leader of the Islamic Party of Afghanistan, Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, said Wednesday in Peshawar that the Soviet bombardment of the villages of Gharwah and Isa Khayl in Konduz Province has resulted in the martyrdom of 570 of the inhabitants.

He further added that Soviet bombardment was in retaliation to the attack of the Afghan Muslim mojahedin on government forces supply units in the region, when a high ranking Soviet officer was killed and two tanks were destroyed.

Meanwhile, an informed Afghan mojahedin source said in a recent operation against the Soviet and government forces in the Takhar Province, the mojahedin downed one helicopter and destroyed two tanks killing their crew.

Clandestine Denounces Use of Terror, Executions

TA172033 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 17 Jan 85

[Unattributed commentary: "A Regime That Has Surpassed All Fascist Regimes in Committing Crimes"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: The use of terror and torture, as well as executions, by authorities of the Islamic regime against revolutionary forces loyal to the revolution has escalated in a savage manner. According to reports from within Evin Prison, in the last 2 weeks the disgraced and criminal judges of the Islamic regime's Shari'a courts issued death sentences for hundreds of our people's revolutionary and patriotic children and delivered them to the firing squad. These executions and savage crimes by the Islamic regime in Evin Prison, and in front of the cells of revolutionary and tortured prisoners, are being carried out in order to break these brave men and bring them to their knees. The Iranian nation should know that even though the Supreme Judicial Council and some criminal clergymen in Qom give their approval, in the final analysis all these death sentences and dreadful crimes are endorsed by Mr Khomeyni himself.

In the contemporary history of nations, the clergy in general have indirectly participated, with some exceptional cases, in all crimes by the ruling and exploiting strata, and in inquisition, terror, and

repression. The participation of the clergy in the crimes of the ruling plundering criminal strata was and continues to be carried out by exploiting the people's religious beliefs and by using a religious justification for crimes and plundering.

In contemporary human history it is rare to see a handful of mullahs and clergymen, such as the turbaned executioners in our country who carry the titles of hojjat ol-eslam and ayatollah and who are led by a clergyman having the titles of velayat-e faqih and source of imitation, participate directly in the cruel murder of tens of thousands of noble revolutionary children, both religious and nonreligious. This may be the first time in contemporary history that in a calamity and mullah stricken country, such as our own, a group of clergymen and pseudoclergy have seized power by demagoguery and abuse of the people's religious beliefs. By resorting to the most brutal methods of torture, by violating the most elementary human rights, by repressing the people they have soiled and stained their dirty garb with the blood of tens of thousands of noble human beings. Every Iranian, be he fanatic or religious, can perceive the bloodstains of the Iranian nation's innocent children on the turban, cloak, and garment of these clergymen who have seized power and on the ugly faces of these turbaned executioners.

According to the admission of some Shari'a judges, during 2 weeks alone the Islamic government delivered more than 400 children of our nation to the firing squad for the crime of defending their rights, freedom, and Iran's independence, and for the crime of resistance against the palace of oppression of leaders of the fascist-theocratic regime. The true figure of the victims and those killed by the hated Islamic regime is considerably higher than this. However, even if we should judge by these official figures presented by the bloody government of the Islamic Republic, we realize that our nation is confronting the bloodiest regime of all which under the banner of religion and Shari'a standards, and by pretending to be religious, has surpassed all bloody fascist regimes.

The Iranian people will never forgive them for these crimes. The day is not far off when the Iranian people will avenge the blood of their dear ones from a bunch of executioners, criminals, and turban wearers. The united and organized struggle of the people, and the use of various forms of struggle against the bloody Islamic government, will bring closer that historic day — the day of the nation's vengeance.